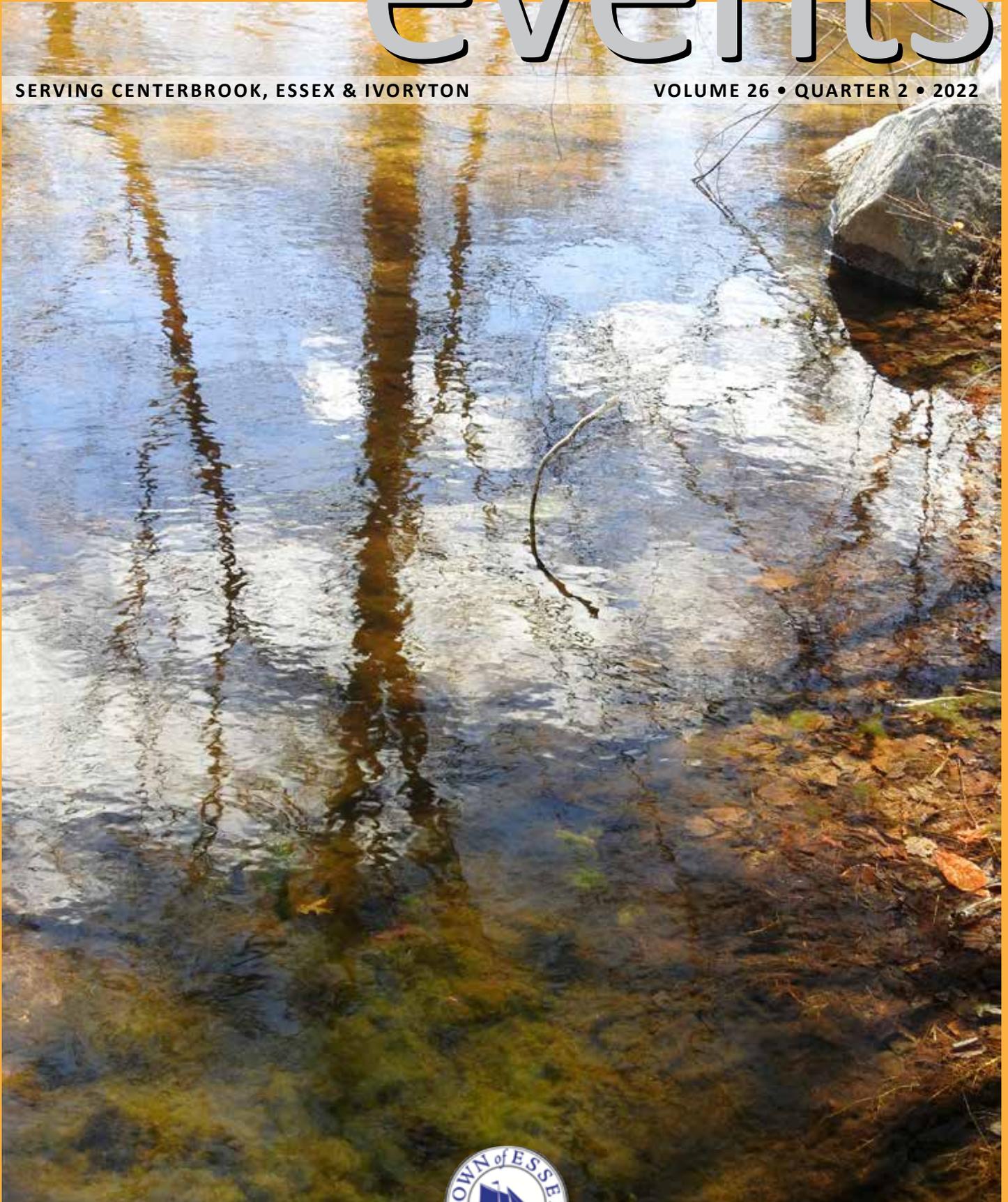


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First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Finally, spring has arrived. I encourage you to spend time outdoors enjoying the serenity of our beautiful Town and check out all of the upcoming events that the warm weather brings. The Garden Club's May Market, which will be on May 7th, is back with their coveted garlic salt. Explore the many Essex Land Trust trails and visit our Town parks. The Burning of the Ships, Memorial Day, and the July 4th parades have been scheduled and the Ivoryton Farmers Market will take place on the Ivoryton Village Green on Saturdays from June through October. Considering summer activities for the kids? Our Park & Recreation Department has a fantastic summer camp for children in grades K-8. Visit the Connecticut River Museum, make plans to take a ride on the Essex Steam Train, or see a show at the Ivoryton Playhouse. While you are out and about, shop the local boutiques and visit our fine restaurants. Our small Town has much to offer. And don't forget, we were just deemed the "Friendliest Town in CT!"

It is hard to believe that it has been over two years since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Every facet of our way of life has been touched in some way or another. I want to thank each and every one of you for your patience and

cooperation. It is time to move forward and learn to live with COVID-19. I would like to note that for the duration of the pandemic, the Town Hall never ceased operations, our Health Department provided the vaccine and the booster to many of our residents and others across the state, and we have distributed hundreds of masks and COVID-19 test kits. At the end of February, I lifted the mask requirement at the Town Hall for employees and visitors as did the schools in Region 4 for their students and staff.



Norm Needleman
First Selectman

I'd like to thank all who came out for the annual Essex go Bragh Irish Parade, the Town's first parade in two years! Many thanks to our Park & Recreation Director, Mary Ellen Barnes, her staff, Public Works, and the Essex Police for a job well done. The weather cooperated and we had a solid turnout of residents and visitors in festive green apparel!

The 2022-2023 Annual Budget is in progress. As always, the **continued on page 5**

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First Selectman... continued from page 3

Town's goal is to continue to meet the needs and expectations of our residents while keeping expenditures as low as possible. The final budget went to a Public Hearing on April 14, 2022, at 7:30 pm and will be voted on by residents at the Annual Town Budget Meeting on May 9, 2022, at 7:30 pm. The Region 4 Budget Referendum for Essex residents will be on May 3rd from 12:00 - 8:00 pm at the Essex Town Hall.

Lastly, I'd like to welcome our new Animal Control Officers, Harry Plaut and Matthew Carroll, who oversee animal control for Essex as well as Chester and Deep River, and Karen Abercrombie, our new Assistant to the Assessor.

All the Best,
Norm

Norm Needleman,
First Selectman

Real Estate Tax Relief for Persons Totally Disabled or Over Age 65

The Assessor's Office is accepting applications for the State of Connecticut Circuit Breaker program until May 15th. To qualify for this program a person must be totally disabled or have reached age 65 by December 31, 2021. In the case of a married couple, only one spouse needs to be 65. The total household income, including Social Security benefits, must be less than \$46,400 for a married couple; and less than \$38,100 for a single person.

The property that you are seeking assistance for must be your primary residence. Once qualified for the State Circuit Breaker Program, a person/couple is also eligible for the Town of Essex matching benefit.

The amount of tax relief is a sliding scale based on total income. For example, if a married couple had a total income of \$20,000 for calendar year 2021, they may qualify for assistance from the State of up to \$1,000. The \$1,000 would be taken off their tax bill and the Town would match that benefit up to 100%, depending on age and years of residence in the current home. In this example, the tax bill could be reduced by as much as \$2,000.

If you, or someone you know, might be eligible for this benefit, please have them come to the Assessor's Office at Town Hall with their 2021 SSA 1099, and proof of any income earned in calendar year 2021 or a copy of the 2021 tax return prior to May 15, 2022.

continued on page 6



Publisher's Note Remembering Joan Joyce – Our Finest Athlete

It is with a heavy heart that I write this note about the passing of a true legend - Joan Joyce. I had the pleasure and honor to meet her (over the phone) as part of putting together our The Last Word feature article that appeared in Events Magazines for the 4th quarter of 2020. It is a conversation I will remember forever. Her ever so clear memory of the many great moments in her athletic career was astonishing – from Raybestos Brakettes softball games, to striking out Ted Williams and Hank Aaron, to golf moments, to how her coaching career came about. (She would tell you that she has been coaching all her life.) And of course, her father – whom she loved tremendously. Up until he passed, she would keep a room for him in her house in Florida and he would attend all the Florida Atlantic University softball games.

It is hard to believe that there was not more fanfare about this superb athlete who excelled in so many sports. That is until you spoke with her and found out how matter-of-fact she took everything. She could have been boastful or arrogant. But she was not. Instead, you could tell how much joy she found in all that she did. I had fun sharing stories about growing up in West Haven and the various individuals I had no idea we knew mutually.

And, of course, there was the ever-competitive spirit that came through not only in talking about her Florida Atlantic softball team but also about her own goals – even at the age of 80. As I recall, she recounted the story of helping a friend move. She stumbled while carrying a box. Her volleyball training helped break the fall. She did injure her hip. During the course of the conversation, it suddenly occurred to her. "Maybe I could golf left-handed," she said. If anyone can do it, I'd bet on you, I observed.

In honor of Joan Joyce, we are re-publishing The Last Word feature that ran in 2020. You will find it on page 46 of this magazine. For those of you who knew or knew of Joan, it is a nice reminder of her greatness and grace. For those of you who did not, it is a way to read about and acknowledge an amazing life.

William McMinn

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Assessor... continued from page 5

Further information is available on the Assessors' page of the Town of Essex website at: www.essexct.gov. Please call or email us with any questions. We look forward to the opportunity to assist you.

Jessica Sypher, CCMA II, Assessor, jsypher@essexct.gov
Karen Abercrombie, Assistant to the Assessor, kabercrombie@essexct.gov
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Sustainable Essex Hosting 1st Earth Day

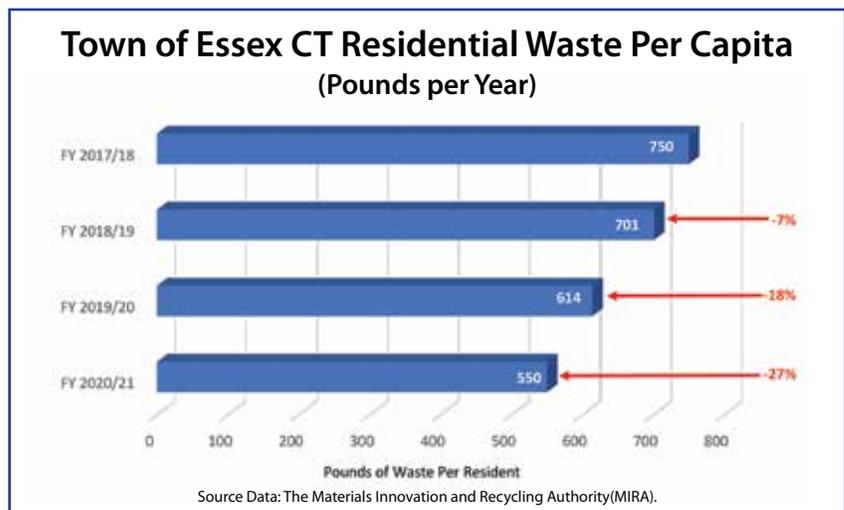
Sustainable Essex is hosting its first Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 30th from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Bushy Hill Nature Center in Ivoryton. This is an opportunity for community members from the tri-town area to gather and work together to create a better, more sustainable future for our planet. We have events to encourage us to repair, reduce, recycle and connect to nature.

First, we have many skilled volunteers that will be at our onsite "Repair Café" to help fix your small household appliances, computer, tablets, lawn equipment, bikes, and mend and alter clothing. This service is free of charge.

Second, we will focus on reducing food waste by composting. According to a recent survey that we did with Essex residents, 60% said they were interested in learning more about residential food scrap pick up. To help us explore this topic, the hauling company Blue Earth, will educate us on the importance of composting.

We also will have a few collections happening at the event to recycle hard-to-recycle items. We will be collecting "thin film" plastic that is clean, dry and free of food residue. To see the full list of acceptable items visit the NexTrex website. We are also collecting old tennis balls to be recycled, and we are collecting art and craft supplies to be swapped at a later date. There will also be education to help clarify "What's in and What's out" when it comes to proper contamination-free recycling.

Finally, we will be reconnecting with nature by visiting the farm animals, exploring the hiking trails and planting seedlings for the kids to take and plant in their garden. We hope you and your families will join us for this fun event at Bushy Hill Nature Center. If you have any questions, please email us at: sustsxt@gmail.com.





William Pitt

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The Essex Board of Trade (EBOT) is delighted to sponsor its second annual Daffodil Days, celebrating the seasonal bloom of now 43,000+ daffodils planted by the Essex Foundation's beautification committee. "The daffodils

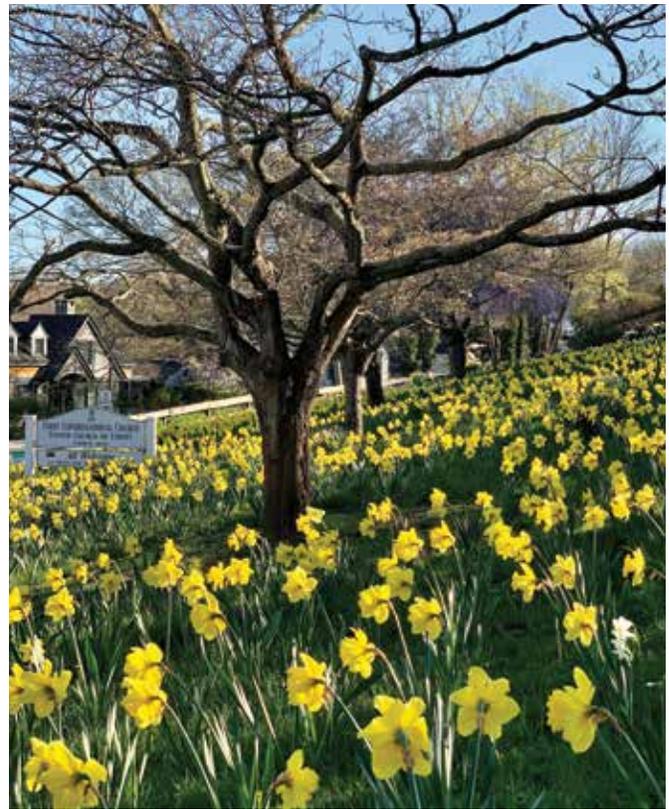
are a beautiful natural event and a wonderful opportunity to position Essex as a destination of choice for visitors and locals alike each spring," said Susan Dee, president of the EBOT.

EBOT created Daffodil Days to encourage visitors not only to come and enjoy the beauty of the daffodils, but to also experience our local restaurants, shops, galleries, waterfront, and historic architecture in the villages of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton.



Moving into summer, EBOT now looks forward to hosting its next event, Alfresco Thursdays, weekly in

July and August. Stores on Main Street in Essex village will be open until 8:00 pm as restaurants serve up festive food



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and drink specials on their patios, decks and dockside.

“Now four years strong, Alfresco Thursdays is a summer event that residents and visitors increasingly look forward to each year,” Ms. Dee continues. “Just as important however, this event continues to brand Essex as an alfresco experience to be enjoyed year-round. Because of Alfresco Thursdays, people have come to know about the numerous outdoor

dining venues in Essex and a shopping experience that includes strolling, lunch, coffee, and time to relax on a bench in our parks or along the Connecticut River.”

Stay tuned to EBOT’S Experience Essex website at: EssexCT.com and to Instagram @experienceessex, for event updates... including live music locations!

FISH (Friends in Service Here)

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The officers for 2022 are Henry May, President; Stuart Warner, Vice President; Mary Samburg, Secretary; Barbara Ryan, Treasurer and Jack Frost, Driver Recruitment. Dispatchers are John Heiser and Tony Carrano.

Good news. FISH will restart driving

this April 2022 after not driving because of COVID-19 from January through March 2022. We have coordinated our plans with the health departments of Essex, Deep River and Chester. FISH drivers and riders continue to be required to be vaccinated and to wear masks.

The modest FISH budget is funded by grants from the Essex Community Fund, the Community Foundation of

Middlesex County, the Essex Rotary Club, the Essex Savings Bank, the Deep River Community Health Committee, the Town of Chester, the Town of Essex, and other organizations, as well as by contributions from our drivers, riders and friends. We did not ask for donations for 2021.

Henry May,
Driver and President

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Tri-Town Youth Services

Mission and Vision



Tri-Town Youth Services coordinates, develops, and provides services dedicated to promoting the positive growth and development of youth and families in Chester, Deep River, and Essex. Tri-Town Youth Services envisions a community where youth are able to establish strong and positive relationships with family, school, peers, and the community.

Developmental Assets: The Heart of Our Work

Since 2005, TTYSB has used The Search Institute's Developmental Assets Model to provide positive experiences and promote skills that influence young people's development, helping them become caring, responsible, productive adults and preventing negative behavior and outcomes. Our agency and its Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition work across sectors to build youth assets and address a range of behavioral health issues facing young people while also addressing the needs of those who care for them.

Programs and Services

Tri-Town Youth Services supports all children, teens, and parents in Chester, Deep River, and Essex. We provide information, resources and innovative programs to meet the changing needs of local families, including:

- Parent education
- Early childhood playgroups
- Suicide prevention
- Diversionary program
- Adolescent substance abuse prevention
- 4 Wellness Prevention & Mental Health
- Promotion Program for all Sixth Grade Students
- Afterschool mentoring for elementary schoolchildren using the One Circle Foundation Model
- Teen leadership development at Valley Regional High School

Clinical Services

Melanie Meyer, LMFT, provides clinical support for Chester, Deep River and Essex residents. Low-cost (or no-cost) clinical services at TTYSB are affordable and convenient. TTYSB treatment is intended to be short-term, and Melanie has a great deal of experience working with middle and high school-aged youth.

TTYSB also networks with local mental health professionals and provides referrals and recommendations for specialized services or longer-term care, as needed.

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Specialist Shares Anxiety Reducing Strategies for Children



Funded by the Essex Elementary School Foundation, Tri-Town area parents were invited in mid-March to a live, two hour Zoom Talk, “Practical Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in our Children”, presented by Jessica Mina-

han, author of *The Behavior Code: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Most Challenging Students*. The Zoom talk was followed by a full day of professional development programming via Zoom for invited staff from the Chester, Deep River, and Essex elementary schools.

The professional development session was the final activity of a yearlong “Behavior Code” book study in which teachers at Essex Elementary School (EES) have been engaged. Over the course of this past school year, the EES teachers were given monthly reading assignments and then would gather as a group to discuss the various topics. Activities and games such as Jeopardy were included to help make the sessions fun, entertaining and light.

“We are delighted to have the generous funding and support from the Essex Elementary School Foundation which allowed us to bring a world-renowned author and speaker to our Region 4 community,” says Jennifer Tousignant, Principal at EES. “During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have realized the increased need for social, emotional learning and growth. The pandemic has had quite the impact on our children and parents alike. Opportunities and experiences such as book study and professional development techniques taught by the author have helped provide our staff with skills needed to do their jobs every day as we continue to navigate the effects of the pandemic.”

Throughout both sessions, parents, teachers, and staff were offered practical and easy-to-implement strategies to help minimize behavioral challenges. Using case studies, stories, and examples of everyday situations, participants learned preventive tools, tactics, and interventions for reducing anxiety, increasing self-regulation, accurate thinking, and self-monitoring in children.

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The Essex Foundation Announces \$3000 Environmental Scholarship Deadline

AREA RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY BY MAY 10

The late Elizabeth (Diz) Barnes Callender and her sister Mary Frances Barnes were Essex residents deeply committed to land conservation and preservation. Upon a bequest, The Essex Foundation established the Elizabeth Barnes Callender and Mary Francis Barnes Annual Scholarship in their memory. A \$3000 scholarship will be awarded to one Valley Regional High School graduating senior or graduate, or an Essex resident who is pursuing studies related to land

conservation and preservation at a two or four-year college, a technical school, or graduate school, or taking accredited courses. Fields of study may include biology, botany, agronomy, ecology, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, landscape design, or environmental science.

To be considered for this year's award, applicants must submit materials to The Essex Foundation no later than May 10. Scholarship information and application forms can be found online at: theessexfoundation.org.

Essex Meadows Hosts Haitian Art Show

"In the bleak midwinter" of Essex, CT, where each day brings unpredictable mostly cold wintery weather and bare trees, people who visited the Essex Meadows Gallery from mid-February to mid-March were greeted with a variety of Haitian art. The bright colors, warm tropical scenes, telling stories

or with stories brought joy and warmth to those who visited the show whether intentionally or by chance.

Two organizations in this area, Sister Cities Essex Haiti (SCEH) in Essex and The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education in Old Lyme are the main links

to the town of rural Deschapelles.

At different times the founders had visited Hospital Albert Schweitzer, founded in 1956 to participate in work teams. That was the impetus to create these two organizations to provide additional opportunities for Deschapelles. The

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Haitians depict rural scenes that often tell stories. They also show the love and respect of nature in their art.

Crosby Fund focuses on scholarships for needy youth and SCEH's main effort has been to respond to the community's request for a large and active Library.

Haitians are innovative and wonderful artists. This show depicted art from metal cutouts, large and small, black and brightly painted. There are painted

papier maché pieces from small imaginatively decorated andolides (lizards) to two full size realistically painted Rooster and a Hen. Small and large depictions of rural scenes often tell stories such as Crossing the Artibonite River in a barge or the Orchard of HAS. They depict love and respect of nature, many with birds and animals.

Both the Crosby Fund and SCEH purchase art to resell here to support the Deschappelles artists as well share the joy of Haitian art. People stopped to tell the organizers how much pleasure they got from seeing this show. Our response was: "We were happy that the Haitian artists brought joy to you during those bleak days."

Region 4 Budget Referendum

THE REGION 4 BUDGET REFERENDUM IS ON TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022.

The Referendum will be held at the Essex Town Hall from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

If you are not registered to vote you can register online at: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>.

If you have any questions, please call 860-767-4340 ext. 142 or by email.

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Spring Happenings at Essex Historical Society

Essex Historical Society (EHS) stays busy connecting to our audiences virtually and in person this spring! Please continue to connect with us to receive firm dates and times at: www.essexhistory.org.

VIRTUAL OPTIONS

Visit EHS's free You Tube channel for the recordings of the three talks marking the 40th Anniversary of the Falls River Flood of 1982. EHS thanks our presenting partners: Ivoryton Library; Essex Land Trust and Trinity Lutheran Church. Learn more about the Falls River Flood of 1982 on EHS's You Tube Channel (Essex CT Historical Society.)

Follow EHS on Facebook or Instagram each weekend for our popular "Find It Friday" feature as we ask our followers to locate buildings from our historic past. You will learn something new every week!



EHS - Village Walk July 2021

Join EHS on one of our popular walking tours!

IN-PERSON OPTIONS

EHS's popular walking tours return this summer, thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC.) With personal audio devices providing excellent sound quality, EHS offers socially distanced walking tours as you enjoy a little exercise with your history. Stay tuned for dates, times, and topics.

Starting in June, Pratt House welcomes all ages to visit (or revisit) Essex's only historic house museum, 19 West Ave. Learn what life was like in the 18th and 19th centuries for an Essex family in a seaport town. New guides welcome!



EHS - Pollinator Garden

Explore Pratt House's beautiful Pollinator Garden, 19 West Avenue, anytime.

Essex Garden Club and EHS continue to collaborate on a 'Pollinator Pathway' garden behind Pratt House. Please join the Pollinator team to help with planting, light weeding, watering and/or funding, sxpollinators@gmail.com.

Essex hosts a new Sea Music Festival on June 10-12 with partners at the CT River Museum, Griswold Inn, Town of Essex and EHS. Sea Music performers, maritime talks and concerts will give life and sound to the history of the ships and sailors of the 18th and 19th centuries.

For the latest info, please visit EHS's website at: www.essexhistory.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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THE ESSEX REAL ESTATE MARKET

February 2021 - February 2022 Recap

Percent of List Price
*101% of list price compared
to 96% in February 2021*

+5%

Days on Market
*15 days compared
to 112 in February 2021*

-87%

Active Inventory
*14 home for sale compared
to 35 in February 2021*

-67%

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#1 in Essex Total Transactions

2019 | 2020 | 2021*

*Source: SmartMLS



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*Source: SmartMLS
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It's Finally Back after 2 Years... Celebrating 70 Years... Essex May Market!

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
RAIN OR SHINE... WITH LOTS OF GARLIC SALT!

Due to the pandemic the Essex Garden Club has not been able to have its annual May Market but this year we will be back Bigger and Better. This year The Essex Garden Club celebrates its 70th Anniversary. We have had 2 years to prepare for this great event and are thrilled that it is right around the corner. We have been busy in our gardens growing lots of plants and are so excited to be able to share them with you all.



The Members Plants section of the market will offer prized perennials, ground covers, grasses, and shrubs dug and potted from the gardens of club members. These plants, grown and locally dug, are proven winners in a microclimate and soil similar to other area gardens like yours. There will be more than 1500 plants available. If you are looking for a bouquet of fresh flowers for your mom or special person for Mother's Day, you will find a beautiful assortment here. Arrangements will be made of favorite springtime flowers like lilacs, lilies, pussy willows, and so much more. Of course, we will have

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a great assortment of annuals and hanging baskets waiting to be taken home. All our chefs out there will want to come pick up their Herbs.... we will have lots of them basil, thyme, oregano you name it... we have it.

Drum roll Please!!!!...

TOMATO PLANTS WILL BE HERE...

There will be 300 plants with a great choice of varieties including cherry, grape, artisan (focus on flavor and unique colors and shapes) early and main crops, bush and heirloom.



Drum roll Please Again!!!!...

GARLIC SALT WILL BE HERE...

We have had so many requests over the last 2 years for our FAMOUS Garlic Salt. The EGC has been making this closely

guarded secret recipe since 1953! May 7th is the day... so come and stock up on it, it will go quickly.

“Garden Gifts” will have handcrafted items made by the EGC members. A few to mention are greeting cards made of

pressed flowers, Kokedama Moss Balls, Hypertufa planters and Driftwood planters. This year we have a “Gift Boutique.” A Simon Pearce vase, vintage Belgian linens, ceramic tulipiere and a Tiffany vase are just a few of many special items you will find here. The “Treasures” section is a great place to find gently used garden pieces, planters, gardening tools and a mix of odds and ends.

May Market is the Garden Club’s only annual fundraising event. Proceeds support civic improvement projects, such as beautifying town parks and traffic islands in Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton. Funds also provide scholarships for high school seniors and college students, summer camperships for young students and educational programs for the Essex Elementary School and John Winthrop Middle school. Funds also support adult and children’s programs in both Essex and Ivoryton libraries.



Mark your calendars, set you alarm clocks for Saturday, May 7th. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm... Essex Main Street Park. May Market is truly a gardeners’ dream. For more information, please visit us at: www.essexgardenclubct.org

HAPPY SPRING!

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Essex Park & Recreation Department

Mission Statement

*Creating Community through People,
Parks and Programs!*

Summer Concerts Series

Our much-anticipated Summer Concerts Series will return to the Villages of Ivoryton and Essex. Please check our website or Facebook page for weather related information. All concerts are from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Concertgoers should bring their own lawn chairs and blankets and practice social distancing. Be sure to bring dinner, snacks, and beverages and enjoy the evenings in our Villages.

Tuesday, June 21,	Ivoryton Green, Southern Voice
Wednesday, June 29,	Essex Main Street, Leaf Jumpers
Tuesday, July 5,	Ivoryton Green, Butter Jones (New!)
Wednesday, July 14,	Essex Main Street, Shorebreak
Tuesday, July 19,	Ivoryton Green, Bloomer
Wednesday, July 27,	Essex Main Street, Middletown Symphonic Band
Tuesday, August 2,	Ivoryton Green, Long Island Sound
Wednesday, August 10,	Essex Main Street, Blues on the Rocks
Tuesday, August 16,	Ivoryton Green, Local Honey (New!)
Wednesday, August 24,	Essex Main Street, Coast Guard Jazz Band

Essex Summer Camp Will Return for Summer 2022!

Join us for tons of summer fun at our exciting, engaging Summer Camp! Sports, games, arts & crafts, and more! Camp is offered to children entering grades K-6 (Must be 5-12 years of age) Fall 2022, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, June 20 through August 12. Choose any week or all five; cost is \$135.00 per child. Camp is at Essex Elementary School; Camp will be limited to 40 campers; Field Trips will return this year and so will Field Day Fridays at Grove Street Park. Register online, in person or by mail. Scholarships are available for those who qualify.



At summer camp and having crazy fun!

SUMMER SPECIALTY CAMPS:

Running Rams:	June 20
Tennis Clinics:	June 20 (4 weekly sessions until July 18)
Jr. Warriors Basketball	TBA

Adult Programs

Yoga in the Park – Returns for May 2022 – pre-registration is required.



ESSEX GO BRAGH

We want to thank everyone who came out on March 19th to celebrate the 9th annual Essex go Bragh Parade. Although the forecast called for stormy weather, we had a little Irish Luck on our side and the rain moved out and afforded us a dry parade! See you all next year. Tentative date is March 25, in hopes to not conflict with larger city parades throughout the state!

DEPARTMENT STAFF:

- Park and Rec Director:** Mary Ellen Barnes
860-767-4340 ext.110
- Recreation Aide:** Tim LaChance
860-767-4340 ext.148

Contact Us! We'd love to hear from you! Remember to visit our website for updated announcements, program information, and online registration! Also like us on Facebook for the latest updates!



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Connecticut River Museum News



CT River Museum
Bald Eagle
Photo by
Babara Seith.

Every season along the Connecticut River is special and this past season was no exception; winter was fun! The Winter Wildlife and Eagle cruises were finally back... and well attended. While there were just a few days when the weather didn't cooperate, professional and amateur photographers alike acquired stunning photos of eagles in their natural habitat.

In addition to the on-water activities, CRM continued our **CRM Talks: Speaker Series** programming. Steve Cryan, our resident Train Artist was able to speak in-person to a welcoming-masked-crowd regarding Steam Engines and Steamboats. Josh Shanley spoke to a sold-out Zoom audience about the great Connecticut River flood of 1936.

BEGINNING THIS MONTH, OUR EXHIBIT, SPEED

Hydroplane Racing on the CT River, 1900-1940, tells the tales of the exciting era of speed racing on the Connecticut River. Hydroplane racing embodied innovation, speed, and change!

In addition, the Museum is introducing Sensory Friendly Hours on three different Mondays throughout the year in April, July, and November. Check out our website for more information.

DON'T MISS THESE HAPPENINGS THIS SPRING:

- **Cinco de Mayo River Cruise aboard RiverQuest:** May 5
- **Onrust Cruises and Boat Tours Begin:** May 8
- **Burning of the Ships:** May 14
- **Lecture:** Lucianne Lavin, Dutch-Native American Relationships in Eastern New Netherland, May 17
- **Shanties & Sails:** Live Concerts on Land and River, Begin May 31
- **RiverFare:** Kick off the warm-weather season, June 2
- **Sea Music Festival:** Maritime Music & Tradition Society's Connecticut Sea Music Festival, June 10 - 12
- **Lecture:** Ralph T. Wood, Secretary of the CT Audubon Society, President of Estuary Ventures, June 14
- **Lecture:** Gary Mowers, The History of Outboard Motors and Outboard Motor-Racing: 1900-1940, June 30
- **Thursdays on the Dock:** 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Begin July 7
- **Conquer the Current Paddle Regatta:** August 20



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Town Clerk's Office - Just a Reminder...

2022-2023 Dog License Renewals will be due from June 1 to June 30th, 2022. We would very much appreciate if you mailed in your request due to the volume. (No early renewals prior to June 1st.)

Up-to-date rabies vaccine information will also be required as well as any current spayed or neutered procedures. Please refer to the date of expiration on your renewal notice as that indicates the most recent certificate that we have on file. The cost to register a neutered / spayed dog is \$8.00 and \$19.00 for a dog which has not yet been neutered / spayed.

PLEASE NOTE

Keeping dogs licensed is required by State Statute 22-338. Licensing is not just a way to identify lost dogs, it is also a matter of safety, for pets and their owners. Thank you for your consideration.

Stay Healthy • Get Vaccinated • Get Tested

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for Connecticut COVID-19 vaccination & testing information

VISIT: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV

for updated information from the CDC

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Douglas & Sharon Chan	11 Clark Lane	Essex
Christina Rossi	7 Cove Hill Road	Essex
Teresa Zaleski	20 Heron Pond Road	Essex
David & Robin Isaacs	23 Heron Pond Road	Essex
Barbara Ellen Stratton	85 River Road, H7	Essex
William Ricky Johnson	74 Saybrook Road	Essex
John Preston & Faina Tsipenyuk	85 River Road, J7	Essex
Thomas & Laurabeth Dintrone	24 West Hills Road	Ivoryton
Reninca Labella & Scott Eigner	120 North Main Street	Essex
Andrew & Lourie Turshen	14 Little Point Street	Essex
Jonathan Leighton & Katherine Scott	33 Book Hill Woods Rd.	Essex
Brian & Kimberley Crysler	20 Comstock Ave., Unit 1A	Ivoryton
Cathy H. Groat	11 Ebony Lane	Ivoryton
Louis & Kimberly Companaro	39 West Hills Road	Ivoryton
Peter & Elizabeth Kelpin	27 S. Main St., Unit 9	Essex
Byron Xavier Abarca-Buenano,		
Carol Sanchez & Carmen Sanchez	Map 74/Lot 27	Essex
Angela Concannon	24 Partridge Lane	Essex
Charles & Constance Brown	64 River Road	Essex
Elizabeth G. Jardine	20 Meadow Woods Road	Essex
Alexandra C. Riggio	26 Hillside Drive	Essex



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William F. Mozzer
Bettie N. Sandling
Alison J. Howell
Frances. P. Osborne
Margaret Mary Loiacono
Arlene J. Herzog
Robert P. Conroy
Edith Julia Bogaert
Holton E. Mann

January

James E. Leo
Charles T. O'Donnell Sr.
Shirley Tanner
Alexander J. Robertson, Jr.
Ann Horan-Young
Cynthia A. David

February

David T. Sweet Jr.
Arthur C. Woodward
Peggy Ann Kjos
Marie C. Lang
David H. Kelsey
Lawrence B. Morse
John E. MacElwee
Robert K. Richardell
Eleanor D. Champion
Paula K. Feder
Robert L. Davis

March

John H. Senn
Carol A. Garvey
Sandra A. Daniels
Myrna L. Zube

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Roziak,
Assistant Town Clerk

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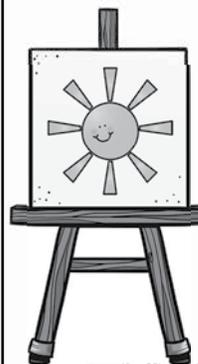
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Week 2: Camping

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Week 4: Water Fun

Week 5: Zoo

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Registration closes May 20th.

Essex Community Fund - Spring 2022



ESSEX GO BRAGH PARADE

ECF along with the Essex Boy Scouts celebrated our inner Irish at the Essex Go Bragh Parade on March 19th. The rain held off and the parade was a huge success!

2022 Grant Recipients

ESSEX COMMUNITY FUND IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
OUR 2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Little Compassion Inc./The Nest	Gilead Community Services
Bikes for Kids	Incarnation Center/Bushy Hill Camp
Camp Hazen YMCA	Ivoryton Library Association
Community Music School	Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation
Essex Boy Scouts/Eagle Scouts	Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore
Essex Elementary School Camperships	Region 4 Foundation
Essex Fire Engine Company	Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries
Essex Fuel Assistance Program	Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau
Essex Housing Authority	Valley Shore YMCA
Essex Veterans Memorial Hall	Valley TV/Photo Club
Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc.	VNA of Lower Valley, Inc.
F.I.S.H.	

EVENING OF GIVING

ECF is excited to host our Annual Evening of Giving on Thursday, April 28, from 5:00 -7:00 pm. This event celebrates our local non-profits as they receive their needed grants, in addition to highlighting their missions and goals for

the year. Each non-profit has specific ideas and projects for their grants, all benefiting our local residents in need. Look around this summer and fall as they make a positive impact on our town!

CONSIDER BECOMING A VOLUNTEER

ECF is a great way to learn more about your community's needs and how you can help improve it for you, your family, your neighbors, and even future generations. ECF has many opportunities to volunteer. Please consider becoming part of our organization. It makes a wonderful way to give back to your community. We hope you will contact us at: info@essexcommunityfund.org.

ECF is a 501-C3 organization that has been fundraising and distributing donations yearly to local non-profits with programs geared at serving the needs of our residents. ECF not only serves as a grant making organization but also works with others to create programming and solutions to challenging situations facing our residents.

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Busy 2021-2022 Musical Year Continues at Community Music School



Thanks to the amazing support of friends and neighbors, the Community Music School has continued to play a major musical role in the lives and educations of its community members.

The non-profit school continues to offer in-person lessons on all instruments (and virtual lessons upon request) as well as ensemble opportunities in its String Ensemble, New Horizons Band (for senior citizens,) Acoustic Classic Rock Ensemble, and Studio 24 Vocal Performance Class.

The school is deeply appreciative to the Clark Group/Centerbrook Properties, Trinity Lutheran Church, and Essex Town Hall for the kind hospitality in



Todd Ellison, new CMS Board member.

hosting the school's large ensembles!

Registration is underway for 2022 summer music theatre programs, which provide great opportunities for students to develop skills in singing, acting, auditions, and choreography, while providing a full production for friends and family on the last day.

Additionally, the Community Music School was proud to recently welcome Todd Ellison to its board of directors. A classically trained pianist, Steinway artist, veteran Broadway Music Director of 17 Broadway shows, symphony

conductor, and award-winning composer.

Todd's credits include: An American in Paris, Annie, La Cage aux Folles, Once Upon a Mattress (starring Sarah Jessica Parker,) and How to Succeed... (starring Matthew Broderick.) He has conducted major Pops orchestras around the world, and over 20 albums including Grammy award winning cast albums of his shows.

Raised on Melody Lane in Ivoryton, Ellison began his piano lessons at age 6 with Beverly Astles of Ivoryton, was the organist for the First Congregational Church of Essex during high school, made his professional music debut at the Ivoryton Playhouse and is a graduate of Boston University School of Music.

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We salute our founders and early donors, the visionaries who pooled resources to provide immediate and future support to local nonprofit programs.

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As you travel around Town, you may see an increase in road work signs, large trucks with flashing lights, orange cones and people working in bright clothes. We understand no one enjoys construction, but it is necessary to improve and maintain our road and sidewalk system.



Please PAY ATTENTION while you are driving. Control the speed of your vehicle and be cautious while driving through work zones. Please respect what our employees and contractors are trying to do to improve our roads. Most speed

limits on our Town roads are 25 MPH. If you are traveling through a work zone you should be driving even slower than the speed limit.

Essex has always prided itself on being a very walkable community. Through the pandemic we have seen a significant increase in pedestrian travel. If you are a pedestrian or cyclist, keep yourself visible; wear bright clothes and choose safe routes; be cautious at intersections and use the

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sidewalk whenever possible. Drivers, please give our pedestrians the right of way and share the roadway.

This year there will be several projects involving pavement restoration, chip sealing, crack sealing, drainage work, and sidewalk replacements. We will be working on roads and sidewalks all over Town. Our current list of roads includes Town Woods Rd, Falls River Dr, West Hills Rd, Mitchel Ter, Maple Ave, New City St, River View St, and North Main St.

Connecticut Water will be replacing sections of the water main on New City St and North Main St in Essex and on Route 602 in Centerbrook at Cumberland Farms heading west towards Deep River. Road repaving will follow the water main replacements later in the summer. Connecticut Water will alert their customers of this upcoming work.

The Town of Essex Public Works Department depends on you to be a responsible driver and help keep our employees and pedestrians in the roadway safe. Please bring any questions or concerns to our attention. We appreciate your help in keeping our Town a safe and enjoyable place to live.

Ryan Welch, Public Works Director
rwelch@essexct.gov
860-767-0715



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Visit the website for more information: <http://www.211.org/#>



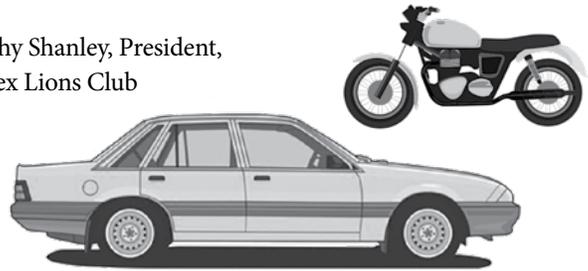
Essex Lions Club

P. O. Box 525 | Essex, CT

Due to current economic circumstances, the Essex Lions Club has not been able to conduct fundraising in our normal fashion. Thinking outside the box, we are proud to present a recycled car / vehicle program in partnership with Essex Detailing. This allows us to continue our fundraising efforts in a safe environment.

If you, or anyone you know that has a vehicle (car, truck, motorcycle, etc.) they need to get rid of, please reach out to us. Please contact Jim Clark, Essex Detailing, at: 860-767-1561. You will receive a tax deductible receipt for your donation. All funds raised by the Essex Lions Club is distributed throughout our community to those in need.

Cathy Shanley, President,
Essex Lions Club



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The Estuary Center



May 14th LIMITED SEATING CHEF'S TABLE DINNER

Join us for a limited seating Chef's Table Dinner at The Estuary on May 14th at 6:00 pm. This is an exclusive dining experience that includes a full 5-course dinner, a selection of beer and wine, and live music. To find out more, please visit us at: www.yourestuary.org or call 860-388-1611 ext.210. Deadline to RSVP is May 2nd. All proceeds from this dinner support Meals on Wheels and senior services for the community.



June 4th - ADULT PROM

The Estuary is excited to welcome back its annual Prom on Saturday, June 4th from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Join us at the Estuary Speakeasy and celebrate the Roaring 20's in style. Tickets can be purchased over the phone at: 860-388-1611 or in person at The

Estuary Council at 220 Main St. Old Saybrook.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

We are excited about The Estuary's new Wellness Wednesdays. Every Wednesday we will have Strength & Balance Class from 10:00 - 10:30 am, Low Impact Dance Aerobics from 10:30 - 11:00 am, and Qigong from 11:00 - 11:30 am.

Move to Music is the **1st & 2nd Wednesday** of every month from 1:30 - 2:00 pm.

The **3rd Wednesday** of the month we will have our Vaccine Clinic from 12:30 - 3:00 pm. Vaccines may change from month to month. Please call 860-388-1611 for an updated list.

The **4th Wednesday** of the month is our Hearing Clinic, by appointment, from 12:30 - 4:00 pm that will assist you with an audiological evaluation, ear inspection, hearing aid cleaning & repair and more.



All programs take place at The Estuary center at 220 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475 and are

open to all adults over the age of 50.

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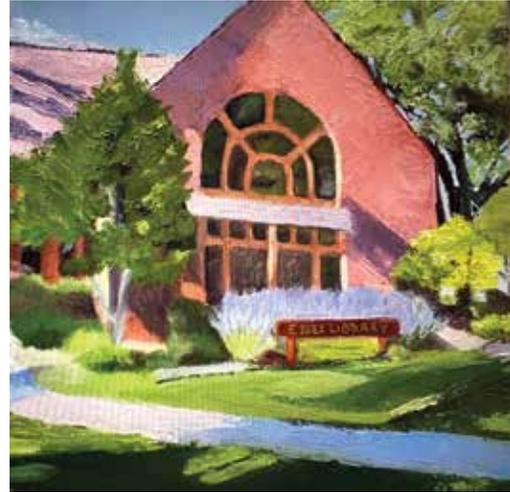
*Your Community Center for Lifelong
Learning and Cultural Enrichment*

Spring programming for children and teens continues apace at the Essex Library. May events will include a Musical Instrument Petting Zoo with the Community Music School, Wiggle Worms Story Hours on Tuesdays for the 0-3 contingent, and a joy-making grant from the Peach Pit Foundation will fund Kindness Rock Painting and Exam Stress Relief Kits, in addition to other fun programs for local residents.

Essex Library’s Summer Reading Program, “Read Beyond the Beaten Path” kicks off on June 27 and provides 8 weeks of fun for children and teens. Programs are organized as a variety of camps for the kids with incentives to complete their Summer Reading goals. Events for all ages will include STEM Space Camp and Harry Potter camp for kids, STEM Culinary Camp and Coding Camp for Teens, weekly outdoor

playground story times, Baby Keepsake story time, Tuesday spirit days, and more!

Through a generous grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the Essex Library has created five Memory Kits containing items for people living with dementia and Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers. These kits are available to borrow for free. That grant is also providing



Essex Library by Donna Richard.

Essex - Community Listings

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

- All Saints Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-1698
- First Baptist Church..... (860) 767-8623
- First Congregational Church (860) 767-8097
- St. Teresa of Calcutta Church..... (860) 767-1284
- St. John’s Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-8095
- Trinity Lutheran Church (860) 767-0228

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Ancient Order of Weeders..... (860) 767-2700
- Democratic Town Committee..... (860) 767-1973
- Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
- Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13.....(860)-558-2121
..... tritownpack13@gmail
- Essex Board of Trade..... (860) 767-3904
- Essex Boy Scouts of America..... (860) 304-9027
- Essex Community Fund..... (860) 304-2751
- Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
- Essex Garden Club (973) 809-6832
- Essex Historical Society (860) 767-0681

- Essex Lion’s Club (860) 767-8072
- Essex Land Trust info@essexlandtrust.org
- Essex Little League..... www.essexlittleleague.org
- Essex Veterans Memorial Hall (860) 767-8892
- F.I.S.H. (860) 388-2693
- Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drummers..... (860) 767-2237
- Ivoryton Village Alliance info@ivorytonalliance.org
- Lower Valley Visiting Nurses (860) 767-0186
- Republican Town Committee..... (860) 262-0226
- SCORE Mentors (860) 388-9508
- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens (860) 388-1988
- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau..... (860) 526-3600
- 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429

SCHOOLS

- Essex Elementary School..... (860) 767-8215
- John Winthrop Middle School..... (860) 526-9546
- Superintendent..... (860) 526-2417
- Valley Regional High School..... (860) 526-5328

funding for the purchase of language instruction materials for children and adults in Spanish, ESL, Dari, French, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Polish and Ukrainian to add to the library's collections.

Essex Library was recently awarded a second Libraries Transforming Communities grant by the American Library Association which will be used to fund One Book One Community projects to be held this spring. Our Librarians will be On-The-Go at special events and locations around town. Please stop by our table and say hi. The Library will be a drop-off location for plastic film recycling as part of the Trex Recycling Challenge in our ongoing collaborations with Sustainable Essex.

Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for more details.

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The advertisement for Sullivan Paving Co. Inc. features a large white outline of a house with a chimney, and a white vintage car driving on a road that curves around the house. The background is a photograph of a paved road with green trees and a blue sky. In the top right corner, there are two logos: a green speech bubble with a white outline and the text "Angie's list" below it, and the BBB Accredited Business logo. The company name "SULLIVAN PAVING CO. INC." is written in large white letters, with "FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1965" in smaller white letters below it. The website "www.sullivanpaving.com" is at the bottom. A green banner contains the phone number "860-767-2357" and the text "CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE". A list of services is provided with checkmarks in green boxes: Asphalt Paving & Patching, Sealcoating & Crack Repair, Oil & Stone Chip, Decorative Stamped Asphalt, Excavation, Grading, and Drainage. At the bottom, it says "Family owed and operated, serving the Southeastern and Southern River Valley regions of Connecticut for over 50 years!" and "FULLY BONDED AND INSURED . CT LICENSE # HIC 0542208".

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SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Norman Needleman, First Selectman	x114	nneedleman@essexct.gov
Maria Lucarelli, Assistant	x112	mlucarelli@essexct.gov
Alyson Finnegan	x145	afinnegan@essexct.gov

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Harry Plaut, ACO	x160	hplaut@essexct.gov
Matthew Carroll, Assistant ACO	x160	mcarroll@essexct.gov

ASSESSOR

Jessica Sypher, Assessor	x124	jsypher@essexct.gov
Karen Abercrombie, Assistant	x123	kabercrombie@essexct.gov

BUILDING DEPARTMENT & FIRE MARSHAL

Dave DeLeeuw, Building Official	x117	ddeleeuw@essexct.gov
John Planas, Fire Marshal	x146	jplanas@essexct.gov
Darcy Roper	x144	droper@essexct.gov

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Tracey Celentano, Director of Finance	x122	tcelentano@essexct.gov
Dana Novorio, Assistant	x116	dnovorio@essexct.gov
James Francis, Treasurer	x127	jfrancis@essexct.gov

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Lisa Fasulo, Director of Health	x118	lfasulo@essexct.gov
Kerry Berardinelli	x119	kberardinelli@essexct.gov
Don Mitchell	x151	dmitchell@essexct.gov

LANDFILL/RECYCLING CENTER

Bill Armstead, Supervisor	860-767-1926 x163	barmstead@essexct.gov
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PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Barnes, Director	x110	mbarnes@essexct.gov
Tim LaChance	x148	tlachance@essexct.gov

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

x150

PUBLIC WORKS

Ryan Welch, Director	860-767-0715 x161	rwelch@essexct.gov
Richard Gallacher, David Martin, David Massey, Paul Mackenzie		

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Caitlin Riley	x142	criley@essexct.gov
Barbara Ryan	x142	bryan@essexct.gov

RESIDENT STATE TROOPER

ESSEX POLICE	860-767-1054	
Mark Roberts, Resident State Trooper	x130	mroberts@essexct.gov
Paul Kenefick		jkeneffick@essexct.gov
Todd Belcourt		tbelcourt@essexct.gov
Christopher McCarthy		cmccarthy@essexct.gov
Karen Reilly		kreilly@essexct.gov
Robert Hart		rhart@essexct.gov
Judson Howes		jhowes@essexct.gov
Charles Burns		cburns@essexct.gov

SOCIAL SERVICES

Mary Ellen Barnes	x201	mbarnes@essexct.gov
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TAX COLLECTOR

Megan Haskins, Tax Collector	x120	mhaskins@essexct.gov
Lynne Skinner, Assistant	x121	lskinner@essexct.gov

TOWN CLERK

Joel Marzi, Town Clerk	x129	jmarzi@essexct.gov
Yvonne Roziak, Assistant	x128	yroziak@essexct.gov

TOWN HALL OPERATIONS/ MAINTENANCE

Andrew Harrington	x136	aharrington@essexct.gov
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ZONING ENFORCEMENT

Carey Duques, Enforcement Agent	x115	cduques@essexct.gov
Kerry Berardinelli	x119	kberardinelli@essexct.gov

www.essexct.gov



106 Main Street | PO Box 515 | Ivoryton, CT 06442
860-767-1252 | staff@ivorytonlibrary.org

Spring is here, the daffodils are out and the Ivoryton Library is bringing back its May Used Book Sale. Saturday, May 7 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm, downstairs, with a plant sale out front! So we would love your donations of books, movies, etc., as well as perennials from your garden. Drop off any time before May 7, thanks!

MORE NEWS

1. Have you received our brand new newsletter? Visit our website to read the latest issue of Libraring and sign up to receive it in your inbox monthly.
2. The Ivoryton Library received a generous donation from the Peach Pit Foundation in partnership with the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. This money will allow us to bring some fun, free, family-friendly entertainment to you this summer. **Hawaiian Hula in June! Chinese acrobatics in July!** Look for details on our website, social media and our monthly newsletter (see above.)
3. We hope all school age children will sign up for our **Summer Reading Program: Oceans of Possibilities!** Stories, crafts, videos, lots of fun and some good books, too. We also support the reading program, Read Beyond the Beaten Path and the Governor's Reading Challenge. More information on these programs coming up!
4. In addition to our on-going book club: Facts & Fibs and Tea & Murder, we started a new club this year. Meeting quarterly, our new #Own Voices Book Club. Our next meeting is July 19 when we will read the play: *I Am My Own Wife* by Doug Wright. Previous titles read include *Interior China town* and *The Half Has Never Been Told*.
5. During the month of May, the Ivoryton Library will be collecting food for the **Region 4 Backpack Program**, which provides food for students, identified by their schools, with nutritious food when other resources are not available, such as weekends or vacations. Brochures listing suggested food items are available at the library alongside the drop-off bins in our entry.

Please visit our website for more information on all of the above at: ivorytonlibrary.org, or, better yet, come visit us!

Friends of the Essex Library

COCKTAILS WITH THE FRIENDS IN JUNE

On Friday, June 10th, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, the Friends of the Essex Library will host what is sure to become one of the community's favorite fundraisers – COCKTAILS WITH THE FRIENDS!

The event will take place at one of several host homes in Essex, Centerbrook or Ivoryton, where cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Be it a lovely garden, a great view or a relaxing outdoor area, each home has something special to offer. Here is the fun part: you won't know what home you will be visiting until you pick up your tickets from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Thursday the 9th or anytime on Friday the 10th during regular library hours (10:00 am to 5:00 pm.) Take this opportunity to have a fun evening out, get to know new people in the community and support the library at the same time! All ticket sales are used to fund programs and services that are

outside the Library's budget. Tickets for the event are on sale now through June 7th at the Library at 33 West Avenue.

DONATION NEWS

Thanks to all who attended our Spring Sale! There would be no sales without your generous donations. Please drop off your gently used books, puzzles, and games during library hours.

Remember that donations need to be in good condition. Visit www.youressexlibrary.org/friends/friends-book-sale/ for a detailed description of donation "please's" and "no thank you's".

Thank you for supporting the library and remember to check the website at: www.youressexlibrary.org often to see what's new at the library and with the Friends!

Essex Auto Club 14th Annual Car Show

The Essex Auto Club will hold its 14th Annual Car Show in Essex on July 4th. As in prior years, this event promises a wide variety of automobiles on display, ranging from classics to more contemporary offerings

- there's something for everyone to see. The Car Show will be held at the Connecticut River Museum - both "upper" and "lower" lawns - from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. The Essex Auto Club is a non-profit organization - all

net proceeds from the show will benefit our non-profit partner - the Connecticut River Museum. To show a car, please arrive by 9:00 am with \$20 entrant fee. Attendees are asked to donate \$5. Rain Date: July 9.



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Ivoryton Playhouse



Ivoryton Playhouse opens its 2022 Season with **STAR OF FREEDOM** – the world premiere of a brand-new musical. With music and lyrics by Jeff Blaney and book by Lawrence Thelen – both residents of Connecticut - **STAR OF FREEDOM** takes us on a journey with Sean and Chloe as they search for the meaning of home in 1860s America.

The two come from completely different worlds – one an Irish immigrant, the other an African-American slave – but when the Civil War forces their lives to intersect, they show us what it means to be American during the 19th century. At a time when America is struggling with its identity, it's worth looking back to another difficult time in history that ultimately led to a stronger and more unified nation. Though today we still see the flaws and scars that this history left behind, **STAR OF FREEDOM** brings us a ray of hope through the lives of these two very different characters. Conceived and directed by the Playhouse's own Artistic Director, Jacqueline Hubbard, this production is on stage now through Sunday, May 1, 2022.



Waiting in the wings is NATIVE GARDENS opening May 19 through June 12. A fence divides two backyards. An older white couple has lived for a long time on one side of the fence. On the other side, a young Latino couple has just moved in. Both couples are avid gardeners. One garden has lush grass and symmetrical garden beds. The other is natural and organic. Gardens and cultures clash in this hilarious new comedy of good intentions and bad manners.

Performance times are Wednesday and Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm; Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 pm, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm. Tickets are available online at: ivorytonplayhouse.org or by calling the box office at: 860.767.7318.



This season, the Playhouse is back to full capacity for the first time in two years, yet the safety of our audience remains our primary concern. Masks are no longer required but patrons must provide proof of vaccination or a negative covid test. Knowing all audience members are covid-free will provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

Ivoryton Playhouse with daffodils.

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Essex Land Trust Coming Events

Essex Land Trust Annual Meeting - May 19, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Essex Meadows, 30 Bokum Road, Essex

The Essex Land Trust's members are invited to attend its 53rd Annual Meeting. A cocktail reception with light food will kick off at 5:00 pm and will be followed by an annual business review. Tickets for the cocktail buffet will be available at the door. Business meeting and presentation is open to all. Non-members welcome.

Tree Identification Hike with Bob Kuchta - May 21, 9:00 - 11:00 pm

Canfield Meadow Woods, Book Hill Woods Road, Essex

Former Madison Tree Warden Bob Kuchta will lead an informational and entertaining tree identification hike in Canfield Woods. Bob will teach you how to identify the trees that are common in Essex and describe their natural history and human uses. Fun for all ages. Easy to moderate walking. Rain cancels.

Millrace Hike: Remembering the Flood of 1982 - June 4, 10:00 am

The Millrace Preserve, Ivory Street, Ivoryton, Join preserve steward Scott

McCoid for a walking tour of the Millrace Preserve with a discussion of Ivoryton, its history, the company that built it and the Flood that punctuated the end of an era. Rain Date: Sunday June 5. Parking: Ivory St. and Public Lot at Ivoryton Green.

Annual Picnic and BYO Concert - June 11, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Essex Main Street Park, 12 Main Street, Essex



The Essex Land Trust is hosting a live music concert featuring Melaena, a band that has been built on a foundation of musicianship, showmanship and professionalism mixed with raw talent. The event is intended as a BYO picnic and concert. Bring chairs, blankets. Relax or Dance! Melaena is a 6-piece cover band based out of Norwich. For over 30 years, Melaena has been performing songs from every decade, from Top 40 to Motown to classic rock to current hits; ranked as one of the top covers and wedding bands in the area. Bad weather cancels.

Kayak/Canoe around Nott Island - July 9, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Launch at Middle Cove, Essex Main Street Park, 12 Main Street

Avid kayaker and Essex Land Trust Board member, Jeff Croyle, will lead a circumnavigation of Nott Island. The Island is on the Connecticut River, is owned by the State, and is located across from the Essex harbor. Plan to arrive early to sign a waiver and launch your kayak/canoe for a timely departure. A safety boat will accompany.

Kayak/Canoe Essex's North Cove and Falls River Cove - August 13, 11:00 -

12:30 pm - Launch at Bushnell Street launch landing at foot of Bushnell Street (best access off North Main Street,) Essex

Explore Essex's North Cove and Falls River Cove with avid kayaker and Essex Land Trust Board member, Jeff Croyle. Enjoy expansive views of Essex's Great Meadow, largely preserved by the Essex Land Trust, and learn about the industry, including shipbuilding, located in Falls River Cove during then 18th and 19th centuries. Plan to arrive early to sign a waiver and launch your kayak/canoe for a timely departure. A safety boat will accompany.



The Essex Land Trust Needs You!

As a non-profit all volunteer organization, the Essex Land Trust is always looking to recruit volunteers to assist the organization in fulfilling its mission of acquiring and managing open space to protect the environment and small-town character of the villages of Centerbrook, Essex, and Ivoryton for current and future generations.



We encourage members of the community to become more involved, working with other likeminded individuals, in support of the land trust's mission. Among the many opportunities for involvement, we are actively looking for volunteers in the following areas:

SOCIAL MEDIA – Create new content, expand the land trust's Facebook presence, explore other social media platforms, manage responses to inquiries, and work closely with our Communications Director.

TREE PLANTING AND CARING – The land trust is creating an American Chestnut germplasm conservation orchard this Spring on a preserve and is looking for a team of 6-10 volunteers to assist with the field clearing, planting, weekly watering, and maintenance in 2022 and 2023.

EVENT PLANNING & MANAGEMENT SUPPORT – Work with our Events & Program Director on the creation of events, identification of subject matter experts and event locations. Help with hosting, setup, and breakdown of events, etc.

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT – Provide back-office support including using and updating our donor database, assist with annual membership drive, generate reports, etc. ELT will provide database training.

STEWARDS – Serve as steward or co-steward for one of our preserves. Work involves maintenance of trails, creation of new trails, volunteer-appropriate tree work as needed, habitat

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Land Trust Needs You!... continued from page 37

improvement and completion of annual site reviews. Experience with general garden and landscape tools is a plus.

PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS – Less time consuming and intensive than Steward responsibilities, this work entails occasional support to stewards covering fall leaf clean-ups, invasive pulls, hauling materials and equipment into preserves, etc. These events are generally pre-planned and occur on weekends, weekdays are also options.

HABITAT VOLUNTEERS – Support our effort to safeguard and expand existing habitats for bees, birds, and bats. Assist with the build, installation, care and monitoring of various nest boxes, bat houses and or care for pollinator and perennial gardens.

WRITERS/RESEARCHERS – Conduct research and create articles for our newsletter Woods & Waters, support for various solicitation letters and presentations, etc.

Most of these roles are project-based requiring under 5 hours/month. We encourage you to reach out to Jeff Croyle at croylejeff@gmail.com if you are interested or want to learn more about how you can help.

We really cannot fulfill our mission and build on what we have achieved over the years without volunteers contributing their time and talent. Thanks for all your help.

The Great Flood of 1982: “It looks like the end of the world...” – A Record-shattering Rain...

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That’s the National Weather Service’s somewhat laconic, though accurate, description of a rain-storm system which resulted in the

worst non-hurricane disaster to hit our region in living memory – the now-legendary Great Flood of 1982.

The system produced a deluge of Biblical proportions; up to 16 inches of rain – more than a quarter of an average year’s total - fell in the state over the 4-day period, with the heaviest amounts occurring in south central Connecticut.



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Flood of 1982... continued from page 39

as temporary housing, homes which had been used after an October tornado in the Windsor area which had left three dead, just three years before. Mobile water tanks were filled and made ready for delivery to stricken areas. As a result of all this, the governor planned to ask Pres. Ronald Reagan to declare Connecticut a disaster area, in order to aid economic recovery.

In all of the state, the town hardest hit by this record-shattering tempest was Essex, and the hardest hit area in Essex was Ivoryton. By the night of Saturday, June 5, official records showed 14 inches of rain had poured down in just 72 hours, more than three months' worth. Worse still, 10 inches had come pouring down on that fateful Saturday, alone.

The Great Flood's waters were unleashed around 12:30 am on Sunday morning, June 6, following that record Saturday rain; the 110-year-old dam burst at the Bushy Hill reservoir, up-stream from the town center, sending hundreds of millions of gallons of water cascading down a narrow valley stream-bed and into Clark's Pond, overlooking the west end of Main Street; the century-old dam forming the pond, known as a popular swimming spot, was no match for the waters now cascading down the canyon-like valley; it exploded, sending a 6-foot wall of water, travelling at an estimated 50 mph, barreling across Main Street; it slammed into the residential neighborhood along Cheney Street, knocking houses and outbuildings off their foundations, sweeping away all in its path, including cars; on it went, unstoppable, onto the grounds of the Pratt, Read and Co. piano factory and Sounders Sports, makers of golf equipment.

The implacable wave crashed its way into the brick factory building, shattering windows as it went, then swirled through offices and workshops, gathering up golf equipment as it went; outside, it attacked and swept away the million board-feet of lumber stacked up on the factory grounds.



Car and lumber stacked up where Falls River and Ivory Street.

Now carrying the debris of general destruction, including golf bags and lumber, the raging waters struck the bridge on Walnut Street, roared over Lily Pond (also known as Ivory Pond) on the south side of Main Street and took down the dam there, then

careened along the Falls River and through what is now the Millrace Preserve. Sweeping up to Ivory Street, the lumber and debris and a few cars jammed up against and around the two bridges there.

The great wave had found a watercourse down Main Street, too, through Ivoryton center and east, towards the RiversEdge condominiums, undermining the street and threatening houses and lives as it went. The Bull dam succumbed to the onrushing wave, which now carried on down the Falls River and over the road towards Centerbrook, where it took down the Mill Pond dam behind Centerbrook Architects, adding the pond waters there to the already

catastrophic flood. The rain and the flood continued to roll most of that horrific night, flowing finally into North Cove and the Connecticut River.

By 6:30 am on Sunday morning, the flood waters had subsided. Neighbors came out from their homes to stand in awe as they viewed the destruction. Over two hundred million gallons of water had poured through Ivoryton in less than six hours.

Roads were washed away, pavement twisted and torn, houses leaned off their foundations; lumber was scattered everywhere; there were cars in mud drifts, there was a car in a tree.

“It looks like the end of the world,” said one dazed resident.

By Steve Knauth

Sailing Masters of 1812’s “Burning of the Ships Commemoration”

We made it through another winter and are well into spring! With the passing of the Vernal Equinox on March 21st, we now have more hours of daylight than darkness each day! Woohoo!!!

With the coming of spring, the Sailing Masters of 1812 Fife & Drum Corps has already welcomed Essex Ed to town, has heralded “The Wearing of the Green” in the Essex-Go-Bragh Parade; and is now eagerly anticipating the annual “Burning of the Ships Commemoration” on Saturday, May 14th. Each year since 1968, the Corps has recalled the British attack on Essex on a cold April

night in 1814. Although there was no loss of life, it was a major economic blow to the town. The “Raid on Essex” during the War of 1812 was the largest naval loss our young country suffered until Pearl Harbor in December, 1941. The ships of Essex were privateer ships built specifically to harass the British. After almost two years of war, the British finally figured out that it might be easier to destroy enemy ships while moored in port, or while being built, instead of trying to chase them all around the seven seas. The British slipped up the Connecticut River in the dark of night and

continued on page 42



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Burning of the Ships... continued from page 41

torched 27 ships, as well as destroying the cordage and shipwright house, sail lofts and other structures that were an integral part of the ship-building trade. It was a disastrous blow to the town. The British also appropriated the town's considerable store of rum. It was a disastrous blow to the townspeople (Whereas the burning of the privateer ships and shipbuilding equipment might be viewed as legitimate acts of war, since the rum had nothing to do with the building of privateer ships, taking the rum was just rude.) But the resiliency of the residents of Essex was strong; and within a year they started building ships again, and continued for many years thereafter. Though nothing is mentioned in the history books, we can safely presume the town also restocked with rum... which may or may not have contributed to the resident's resiliency. This year's Burning of the Ships Commemoration will showcase a colorful parade of Fife & Drum Corps from around New England - with their flags flying proudly, while wearing the regalia of different eras in our history and headed by the Sailing Masters in their distinctive USS Constitution War of 1812 Naval Uniforms. As a special treat, the U.S. Navy Silver Dolphins Rifle Drill team from the Submarine Base in New London will perform precision rifle drill routines. The parade steps off at 2 pm from the Town Hall and marches to the trill of the fifes and the beat of the drums through downtown Essex to the flagpole at the foot of Main Street. The presentation will begin in front of the Connecticut River Museum with a brief ceremony memorializing the raid on Essex. Each of the Corps will then regale



the audience with a piece of historical music from our nation's past. This parade is a living illustration of an age gone by, and a "Do Not Miss" experience for any fans of fife & drum music and history buffs alike (Regrettably; the rum enthusiasts will be out of luck.) Many thanks to the Town of Essex and The Connecticut River Museum! We could not do this without you!

For more information, the Sailing Masters of 1812 can be contacted through our Facebook Page or at: info@sailingmasters.org. If your love of history is exceeded only by your love of music, the Sailing Masters invite you to "Come Aboard!" No previous musical experience required. You can choose from fife, snare drum, bass drum, and color guard (carry a flag.) For more information please call Vicki at: 860-212-1606 or email captainvicki1812@gmail.com; or call Amanda at: 860-575-8931 or e-mail aepfairbanks@gmail.com.

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Ugly Fallen Trees in Ponds & Streams are Home to Many!

If you are fortunate to have a stream or pond on your property, even a seasonal or intermittent watercourse, you undoubtedly see the animal life it attracts. Whether herons hunting the shore, frogs calling at dusk, or dragon-flies hunting smaller bugs above the surface, it's clear that these waterbodies support life in many forms. Important components of these habitats are the natural cover for protection from predation and the sources of food in support of an extensive food chain. A pond that's barren of vegetation and submerged structure supports far less life than one with rocks, stumps, sticks, and fallen leaves on which life can feed and grow (regarding leaves, let those that fall naturally build, but don't dump – that can smother and overload with nutrients!)

When it comes to trees or branches that fall into a pond or stream, your first inclination may be to remove them. Before you do, consider that, what the

CT DEEP calls “large woody debris,” can be very beneficial to plants and wildlife that rely on these structures for the food that grows on them, the protection they provide, and the nesting/spawning sites they become. As an example, wood frogs lay their eggs communally on submerged branches and twigs in ponds. A barren waterbody wouldn't attract these chirping amphibians in early spring. Fish depend on structure to hide from predators. Larger fish use cover to ambush prey on which they feed. Plants on which wetlands animals feed can anchor on these woody structures, and derive nutrients from them.

So, if you see large woody debris in a pond or stream, appreciate the benefits it brings .. and maybe just let them be!

For additional info, see: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/restoration/LargeWoodyDebrisFactSheetpdf.pdf>.

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Vernal Pools Wonders of Nature



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with many of these creatures breeding in the spring and summer. In the colder months these pools can provide a home for hibernation and a food source for some invertebrates like fairy shrimp and caddisflies.

1. In Connecticut, the state requires no disturbance of these pools 100 feet from the vernal pool edge or depression using directional corridors to enable breeding for amphibian wildlife.
2. If you hear the songs and mating calls coming from a temporary body of water you may have a vernal pool on your property? If you want to learn more about vernal pools, please contact your local Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission for additional information.

1. Vernal Pool Association (2019.) Retrieved Jan. 23, 2022, from <http://www.vernalpool.org>.

2. Vernal Pool Best management Practices (BMPs.) Retrieved Jan 23, 2022, from [portal.ct.gov/CSC/Exhibit F](https://portal.ct.gov/CSC/Exhibit_F) Jan. 2015.

Plane, Train, or Automobile?

Planning An Eco-Friendly Vacation with an EV

Travel is a way to see new landscapes, try new foods, experience different cultures, find adventure in a place you haven't fully discovered yet. While we all love a little vacation, we know that taking a trip can have an impact on the environment.

FLYING is often the fastest way to get to your destination, and can take you far. But air travel has the highest emissions count of any mode of transportation per person. Fuel efficiency is improving, and some airlines are investing in fleets that run on more environmentally-friendly fuel alternatives, but we have a long way to go.

CRUISE SHIPS offer a floating vacation with quick planning and a relaxed experience, but they aren't a much more sustainable option.

TRAINS get us closer to our low-emission travel goals. They offer more fuel efficiency, lower emissions, and sometimes even a faster trip than planes do.

DRIVING with a traditional car has implications we're all familiar with, but what about an electric vehicle?

As electric vehicles become a more popular and available option, the possibilities for eco-friendly tourism expand. Whether you're ready to charge up your family car and hit the road, or you're grabbing a rental and picking your route, here are some tips to make sure you get the most out of your low-carbon adventure!

1. KNOW YOUR VEHICLE

Electric vehicles have their own unique features and functions. Each model varies in the range it can travel before recharging and some even require a specific type of charger. While most electric vehicles can travel 150-300 miles on one charge, you definitely want to know your vehicle's range before you head out! Start your trip armed with knowledge and a manual.

2. PLAN YOUR CHARGING STOPS

There are some great tools for viewing electric vehicle charging locations. Making sure you know where on your route you can charge up is key, as electric chargers aren't as visible from the

road as gas stations. Consider setting your route in advance and you can plan activities around your charging breaks!



SOME CHARGER SCOUTING TOOLS INCLUDE:
Plug Share – helps you plan your EV route

EV Hotels – helps you find charger locations as well as find accommodations to help you charge overnight

Charge Hub – shows where you can charge and offers other EV resources

3. BUILD IN CONTINGENCIES

You've crossed everything off your list before leaving the house, including programming your thermostat for vacation mode, and are out the door on time. To make sure the rest of your trip goes smoothly, consider planning extra time for charging stops and know where you can get power in case something unexpected occurs.

4. EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

Hooray for trying something new and environmentally-friendly! Take the chance to chat with other EV drivers. Participate in a community of like-minded wanderers and share your tips with them.

When you return home, consider convenient charging for less with Eversource's EV charging program. When you setup a charging station at your home, you can qualify for rebates for a level 2 smart charger, and the installation costs, as well as an ongoing incentive for participation in ConnectedSolutions managed charging, Eversource's EV demand response program. Make sure you're always ready for your next electrified adventure!

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Joan Joyce - Our Finest Athlete by Sigrid Kun

Many fondly remember going to Raybestos Memorial field in Stratford, CT. Amid chants of "Joanie, Joanie," the softball phenom mowed down the competition. Joan Joyce dominated women's fast pitch softball for decades - beginning her amateur career at age 13 with the Raybestos Brakettes. The Waterbury, CT native excelled at every sport she tried - a true competitor, a lifelong coach/mentor. Joyce combines an unbridled, remarkable talent with a matter of fact, humble personality. While she readily speaks about her success, there is no bragging.

Many consider her as "The Greatest Woman Athlete of All Time." Her jaw-dropping achievements/honors take pages to list, including 20 Hall of Fame inductions, Connecticut Athlete of the Year (selected by the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance), and a softball field renamed Joan Joyce Field (a part of Municipal Stadium in Waterbury).



Women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University.

A LIFETIME OF ASTOUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Joyce's softball career covered 1954-1963 and 1967-1975 with the Brakettes and 1964-1966 with the Orange Lionettes. The slingshot pitcher notched 150 no-hitters and 50 perfect games with a lifetime earned run average of 0.09. An outstanding hitter, her career batting average is .327. In 1974, her Brakettes were the first American team to win the World Championships.

She co-founded the International Women's Professional Softball Association, being the star player for

and part-owner of the Connecticut Falcons. The Falcons won every championship of the IWPSA's existence (1976-1979).

She is a four-time Women's Basketball Association All-American and three time AAU Basketball All-American. She played on the USA Women's National Team in 1964 and 1965, setting a national tournament basketball single-game scoring record (67 points) in 1964.

She formed the Connecticut Clippers volleyball team in 1968, and competed as a player/coach. She was named to the All-East United States Volleyball Association Regional Team. Taking up golf at age 35, she spent 19 years on the LPGA tour (1977-1995). She still holds the LPGA and PGA record of just 17 putts in one round of golf.

Now 80, Joyce is the women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University. Starting the program from scratch in 1994, she has amassed 12 Conference Championships, participated in 11 NCCA Tournaments, and won 8 Coach-of-the Year Awards.

THE SECRET TO SUCCESS?

"I don't know," she says. "The only thing I can say about me is that I am very competitive. . . . I will beat you at just about everything. If you beat me, I'd shake hands. But I'd say to myself, you are not going to beat me a second time."



Joan with her biggest fan - Dad (Joe Joyce).

Photo courtesy of Joan Joyce.

Her mother worked days. She, her father (above) and brother played sports all the time. "We would end up going to my father's softball games," she recalls. "We had no gloves. We'd run around everywhere while my father was playing. When they came in from the field, they'd put the gloves under the bench. We'd take them and start catching. When they went back in the field, they'd have to come and get the gloves back from us." When her father played basketball, she and her brother would wait for the halftime buzzer and then fly onto the court to play.

SPECIAL MOMENTS - JOYCE SHARED A FEW



Striking Out Ted Williams/Hank Aaron. She calls striking out Ted Williams (left) and Hank Aaron her favorite moments. "It's the easiest thing I've ever done in my life," she relates. "They had no chance against a softball pitcher just because of the distance." She faced Williams as part

of fundraisers in 1961 and 1966; Aaron in 1978 in a West Hartford exhibition. There were no radar guns then. A doctorate study from USC determined her pitching speed to be the equivalent of 119 mph in baseball.

Invited to China by the All-China Sports Federation (1979).

"It was the first team ever invited to China," she recalls of the Connecticut Falcons. "When we played our last game sixty thousand people came to the game. I was looking out and it was like a flood of people just coming and coming and coming. And I'm thinking, 'Oh, my God!'" The American team won all six games. In the final game, Joyce pitched a no-hitter to beat the Chinese all-star team.



Softball World Championships (1974).

Joyce pitched a no hitter against Australia. "Only one walk. And we picked her off," notes Joyce. "It would have been a perfect game." She also stymied Japan, giving up only two hits. No team wore helmets then. Japan showed up wearing them. Was it to distract her or out of fear of her? "It didn't work," she laughs. "You did not want to get me focused or to get my attention. Stare at me? Give me looks? I would say to myself,

keep doing that 'cause you're never going to beat me. I just didn't like to lose."

Photo of Joan coaching (far left) courtesy of FAU Athletics.

Photo of Joan pitching (left) and photo of Joan with Ted Williams (above left) courtesy of Joan Chandler.



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